

You will perceive by the Liberator that since the above was written, we have felt as it were compelled by our love of the cause and our sense of the deep importance of taking advantage of the present moment to issue the appointments for a double series of Conventions in this and Indiana!

In full confidence that not on ~~us~~ alone, has the energy and resolution which the love of Freedom inspires descended. We rely on your immediate and sustaining response with entire confidence. We will not suppose such a thing as a failure on your part. But you well know that we never ask the aid of others till our own resources are drained to the uttermost, & you will not fail to see that unless you co-operate these plans must all fail, & our eloquent fellow-laborers be recalled. —

Boston Oct 1st 1843

Dear Friend

It is the purpose of the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts A. S. Society, cherae as they have been by the unexampled success of the Western Conventions to carry out the plan by a still more energetic & effectual movement at home.

We have therefore arranged a plan of three hundred Conventions, to be held in Massachusetts in the Month of ~~February~~
& following the Annual Meeting, which can thus be made of ~~over~~ ^{its} more than ~~usual~~ usual importance in raising interest & funds for the cause. By dividing the State into 12 Anti Slavery districts of 26 towns each, & having all the available Anti Slavery force of the country to bear upon it, in 12 miscellaneous series of Conventions - sustained for the most part by voluntary & gratuitous services, & ratified thoroughly in every church & every newspaper in the state, we see that it is not only practicable but certain to give an unexampled impetus to the cause. We have therefore obtained the pledge of a Month's gratuitous labour from many of the friends. But at least 36 to 50 volunteers are needed for three or four efficient & experienced friends should attend each convention of the whole 300: & from the blaze thus kindled at once in every town in Massachusetts will an illumination be shed over the whole union.

We have had, from the foundation of our government to the present hour, such pregnant proof that right & wrong - good & evil - Slavery & Freedom cannot join hands but to the strengthening of wrong, evil & slavery & to the ruin of right, good & freedom; — we have had, from the commencement of our Anti Slavery effort

such convincing testimony that the true hand by what
to urge & shake the nation is ~~appeal~~ to the publick conscience
so clear, at the same time has been the demonstration that
every appeal to it is nullified by participation in the guilt,
so plain is it to common sense that we must take our
shoulders from under the thing we wish should fall, that
we shall make this movement till with all the pre-
cautions & power of which we are capable, upon the
ecclesiastical & the political supports of slavery, & which
form in fact its essential existence as a system.]

We would form a more perfect union 'than the one which
now disgraces that sacred word by placing on the same ^{sooty as} legisla-
tive ^{of our nation} ~~sooty~~ the chosen representatives of masters & those who
stand as tyrants upon the necks of three fifths of all other persons,
by pluming its whole physical force to suppress the aspirations
of one sixth of the whole for freedom - by delivering them
up to endless bondage whenever they escape from it; by main-
taining an American Slave-Trade & a system of
American slavery horrible beyond that of any other crime
or age; by requiring of every citizen his solemn oath to
sustain this whole impurity.

The first step towards right is to cease to do wrong: & we
shall therefore act upon this resolution, adopted unanimous-
ly by the last annual meeting of the Mass. Anti-Slavery Socy -
before so numerously attended. [See resolution over the editorial col-
umn of the Liberator, last winter.]

Our plan being already matured, we shall promulgate
it with all possible vigor & asperity, as soon as the ranks of
the volunteers are filled. In addition to the outpouring
of truth in the speeches, debates & conversations of the three
hundred Conventions, it will afford the amplest opportunity
we hope offered in our community by associated action,
for the sale of anti-slavery books - the increase of subscriptions
to the Anti-Slavery publication - the circulation of petitions
& the collection of the requisite funds.

Will you, dear Lund, be one of this noble pioneer
troops to sustain Massachusetts where she has ever stood -
the Leader of the Van? To hear her Legislature in hallowed
triumph to that high stand-point round which the sister states
shall gather, to unite ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the establishment of jus-

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Dear Friend.

Boston June 13th 1843.

Resolved. That this Convention is rejoiced to learn, that a series of Anti-Slavery Conventions are to be held in Maine, New-York, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and other States, & feels confident that the abolitionists of the different States will take prompt & vigorous efforts to secure large meetings.

Resolved. That in view of the necessity of funds to carry out this plan, which promises such benefit & aid to our cause, we will each of us devote at least one day to solicit subscriptions in our various towns to aid these Conventions.

Resolved. That Francis Jackson be appointed Treasurer of this Convention to receive such funds as may be contributed, or pledged for the purposes recited in the foregoing resolutions, and that he be instructed to apply them to their appropriate object under the direction of the Board of Managers of the Mass. A.S. Society.

We address you at the present time to ask your cooperation & assistance in carrying these resolutions into effect. We are ready to assume the responsibility, & take the trouble, that the Convention devolved upon us. But it is in the perfect confidence of being sustained in the operations we may undertake, in conformity with its wish, by the Abolitionists of New-England. We believe that they will be ready & willing to give us their assistance when they are aware of the ample field that is opened in the Western States for the exercise of a true Missionary Spirit, & of the powerful laborers that we can send into it, if the sum necessary for their outfit & support be furnished by the Abolitionists of the older States. The public mind in Ohio, Indiana, the more recently settled parts of New-York, & of Pennsylvania is in a state peculiarly favorable for the reception of A.S. truth. The Conventions which were held in those States during the past year did a mighty work. The people flocked together by thousands to hear the Gospel of Freedom & a great change was wrought in the complexion of public sentiment by what was then done. They are earnestly desirous of having this wholesome agitation continued during the present season & until it shall have accomplished its beneficent purpose. The harvest is great & white for the sickle; they are extending their hands to God & to us for laborers to be sent into it. We have the laborers all ready for their mission. Shall they go? It is for your answer to this question that we now apply to you on their behalf.

Our plan is, if this appeal be answered in the spirit in which we are sure it will be, to send immediately into the Western field our General Agt. John A. Collins, whose great executive ability & noble disinterestedness are so well known to you, together with Mess^{rs} George Bradburn, the eloquent advocate of the slave in the Legislature of Massachusetts, Ch^r.L. Remond, so favorably known both here & in Great Britain, Jas. Munroe & Jacob Ferris, who have done so much by the devotion of their great powers to advance the cause in Western N. York & Connecticut. The curiosity to see & hear these friends is intense in that part of the country, & we are assured will insure an overwhelming attendance upon their meetings. ^{We have secured} ^{well known} ability also of Frederic Douglass, whose personal experience of Slavery, sound judgment & eloquence & readiness in debate so eminently fit him to be the advocate of Freedom. The well known energy & experience of Mr. Collins is a sufficient guarantee of the manner in which the Conventions will be got up. He will immediately put himself into communication with the Committees of the State Societies, Auxiliaries to the Am. Soc. & with their assistance arrange a double series of Conventions in different parts of the field he is in, so that the influence of our Agents will be brought to bear upon the greatest possible mass of mind. By this plan from seventy to a hundred conventions may be held in the course of the six months of the season, at which from the experience of the last year, we have good reason to believe that from three to six hundred thousand of intelligent, conscientious minds will be stirred up on the subject of their duties & responsibilities in relation to our enslaved countrymen, by the appeals & arguments of those able & faithful men. What an impulse may we not expect to the cause of emancipation from such a gigantic agitation! These anticipations are not draughts upon our imaginations. They are formed upon actual experience & upon the success which attended the partial efforts of the last year made under great embarrassments & disadvantages, none of which will impede us now, if you will do your part; & upon the representations of intelligent & earnest Abolitionists of that part of the country, who are well qualified to speak from their personal knowledge of the people amongst whom they live. Can you refuse to put forth the trifling effort which we are about to ask at your hands to secure so glorious a result? If the friends whom we propose to employ as agents are willing to leave their homes & families for months in the service of the slave, common justice demands that they & those dependent upon them should be furnished with the means of subsistence by those of us who are living in quiet & comfort at our own firesides. It is essential to their efficient action that their minds should be perfectly at ease as to their support. It is our privilege, & should be ~~perfectly~~ our pleasure, to contribute of our abundance or of our penury, to help sustain them. We think that they should not be sent to so distant a field without having a moderate, but certain support for themselves & their families guaranteed to them for the time of their absence, before they set out, & this we must do to secure their services to the cause. But this can only be done by the Abolitionists of N.E. coming forward with their contributions, or pledges, having but a short time to run, for this specific purpose. Between four & five hundred dollars was raised & pledged, at the N.E. Convention. The Am^t. actually on hand would not pay their travelling expenses to the scene of their labours. Money must be had immediately to get them upon the ground at the right moment.

When the Conventions are in progress, funds will of course be raised for the same object, which will doubtless defray a portion, of what is justly then due. But the extreme pecuniary embarrassments of that part ~~will~~ - the promotion of the general welfare - the securing of Liberty to posterity. - If you feel drawn towards this heroic band - "The full & hope misnamed 'forlorn'", will you reply to this letter immediately. When the ranks are quite filled up, which will be rapidly effected, so high are the hopes & the hearts of the friends, we shall begin with the year by meeting together in Boston ~~on the~~

of the country, while they do not prevent the attendance of the people upon the conventions to which they come up with their own horses & provisions & provision, still must render the prospect of large money collections uncertain. It is intended, however, to make no public statement of this effort for funds in N.E. That the sense of the pecuniary responsibility of the Western friends to our agents may not be in any wise diminished. Should their success in this particular be greater than we anticipate, and should any, or all, of your contributions come back to us, we will engage to restore it to you after the return of the agents, during the Autumn & Winter, in a hurricane of agitation, sweeping over N.E. and healthfully stirring the stagnant atmosphere that hangs over it. We believe that even a wise forecast with regard to the pecuniary prospects of the cause, would urge this disposition of funds at the present time. The cloud of pecuniary depression will soon pass away, and we may be sure that the generous spirits whose love of universal freedom will be awakened & strengthened by our efforts, will amply repay them, hereafter, even in the form of money, by their contributions to our National operations.

We would add that the summer & early autumn, which is our A. S. vacation (if you can be said to have such a thing) is the only season when leisure & travelling combine to make the conventions practicable, in the Western States. — Every moment therefore that is lost before our operations commence is literally irreparable for the present season. This circumstance will make you feel the urgent necessity of doing what you do quickly.

Now for what we ask of you. We ask you to lay this our plan before the abolitionists of your neighborhood, either collectively or individually as you may deem best, immediately, if possible on the very day on which you receive this communication, read this circular to them, press upon them the importance of the movement & the vast amount of good that may be accomplished by it.

Make them feel that their contributions will go to make up a great result, accomplished by the united efforts of many. Would not all the outspoken abolitionists of your vicinity & perhaps some who are not such be willing to contribute at least one dollar to this specific object, in addition to what they may be called upon to do for National, State or Local operations?

While we name this sum we do not mean to discourage larger or smaller contributions. But if the most earnest abolitionists of N.E. are willing to contribute on an average that amount, which they can easily save in a very short time by a cheerful personal economy, and this great work is done. Shall it fail for the want of your personal effort?

When you have ascertained the amount that can be depended upon from your vicinity to be paid within a short fixed time (three months at the farthest) then we wish you to communicate the result, by letter, at once within a week from the receipt of this letter to Francis Jackson, in Boston, who has undertaken the charge of this business. —

We especially urge upon you to collect immediately as much as you can and remit it (if it be but a single dollar) at the time of your communication with Mr. Jackson.

We must have money at once to get the agents into the field or the opportunity will be lost. Do not be discouraged by apprehensions that much cannot be raised by your exertions. If you cannot raise a large sum, then raise a small one, only do something, towards this plan. We rely upon your writing to Mr. Jackson within the time we name, even if it be only (which however, we do not think possible) to tell him that nothing can be done. We wish you to feel that the responsibility of the success in the failure of this splendid enterprise depends upon you alone — and to act with a degree at least of the promptitude and zeal that would inspire you, were it your own wife, child, mother or sister whose deliverance it is intended to hasten.

We shall then expect you that you will charge yourself with the collection and remittance of the pledges you take up when they fall due.

Should this Circular be sent to any other friends besides yourself, in your neighborhood, you will consider yourselves as a committee to divide the labor, perhaps but not the responsibility.

Do not rest until this work is done in your town and the result communicated as above indicated within one week. Remember it is to you that we look for the faithful performance of this slight service for the slave.

We know you too well enough to be sure that you need but to be assured of a practicable method of aiding his cause to be made warmly interested in promoting it.

Is not this plan grand and feasible? May we not rely upon your help?

We are strong in the faith that your answer will be such as will enable us to make carry out in their largest extent the plan of the N.E. Convention.

We are cordially and affectionately
your friends.

First of January 1844, & get Boston & ~~Spent the~~ ^{Spent the} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~Consultation, I am happy to~~ ^{Consultation, I am happy to} ~~devotees, & to advise Francis~~ ^{devotees, & to advise Francis} ~~of Chs on~~ ^{of Chs on} ~~development of~~ ^{development of} ~~those of the friends' who are so~~ ^{so} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~confidence~~ ^{confidence} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~justice~~ ^{justice} ~~requires it~~ ^{requires it} ~~of the rest. The time of this meeting is~~ ^{of the rest. The time of this meeting is} ~~immediately after the Fair, that the friends who wish, may~~ ^{immediately after the Fair, that the friends who wish, may} ~~write both objects.~~ ^{write both objects.}

Let us hear from you immediately. We are ever yours devotedly for the
Freedom of the American Slave